

LIBERTY

Published by the Libertarian Party of Colorado

May 2000

The next meeting of the board of directors will be held at 7:00 pm on Monday, May 8 at party headquarters, 720 East 18th Avenue in Denver.

Party members are welcome at the meeting. Please call BetteRose for details: 303.639.5530

"Complexity
doesn't arise
via force or
violence."

State Convention Rekindles Liberty's Torch



Colorado candidates pose with Presidential hopefuls. (Back) Steve D'ippolito, Brent Shroyer, Harry Browne, David Baker, Norm Olsen, John Berntson, Carol Geltemeyer. (Front) Barry Maggert, Don Gorman, Barry Hess, Drew Sakson, Sharon Davis, Johanna Fallis.

Colorado Libertarians joined with national figures to discuss theory and strategy at the 2000 State Convention April 14-16.

Presidential hopefuls Harry Browne, Don Gorman, and Barry Hess each shared their views at the convention, hoping to assist local politics and drum up support for the national convention this summer.

The Cato Institute's David Boaz gave the keynote address at the banquet Saturday evening. Las Vegas columnist Vin Suprynowicz concluded the convention, drawing on stories of American heroes who fought for their freedoms, and sometimes won. James Lark, a candidate for national chair, gave a lecture on strategy and discussed campus groups with Auraria students in attendance.

W. Earl Allen presented the main lecture Saturday morning. He argued that civilization is entering the "Chaordic Age," in which simple rules will make possible complex interaction. "You can't force order on chaos," he said, "order arises from chaos. Complexity doesn't arise via force or violence."

With the rise of the internet, Allen argued, "politics will become far less important in the future."

Sessions on practical technology were offered by Michael Dunafon, Barry Maggert, Michele Bethke, Jesse Wilkins, Ari Armstrong, Ron Bain, and Allen. Johanna Fallis took photos of candidates.

Morning "coffee" sessions covered such topics as Social Security, the abortion debate, Claire Wolf, victimless crimes, and Libertarianism.

Sheriff Bill Masters joined Geoff Lloyd, Debbie Matthews, and James Lark in a discussion on drug prohibition. Cheri Jeffries, Lori Grant, and David Segal

discussed alternatives to the government schools. Segal also gave an overview of the Constitutional right to keep and bear arms.

David Meleney revealed the "Art of Persuasion," and Richard Combs explained why "Infighting Doesn't Work." The party also elected a new board of directors and chose delegates for the national convention. *Additional information is provided with photos inside.*

inside

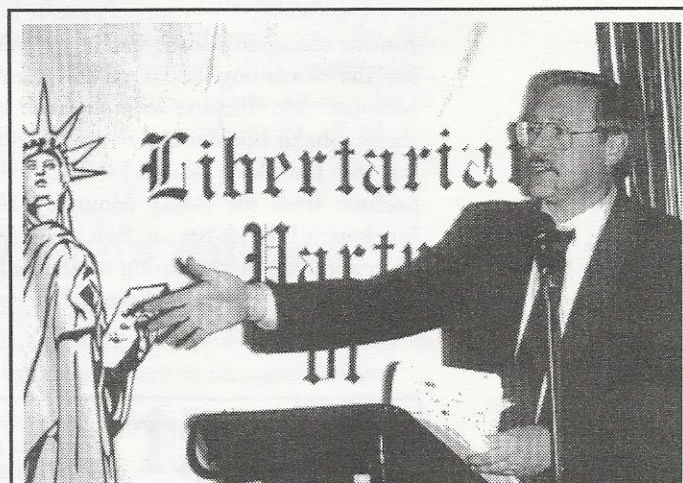
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Syndicated columnist Vin Suprynowicz tells Libertarian candidates to be straightforward when addressing difficult issues and not diminish the tree of liberty.

Notes from the Chair:

Dear Friends,

We had a wonderful convention this last month. Over 145 people come to the convention this year. Five people registered as libertarians and several became dues-paying members. The Party received over \$6,500 in donations from the banquet, the gun show booth, and the silent auction!

Many thanks to Michele (Bethke) Poague and Renee Maggert. Michele worked hard on the convention, designing graphic work for the fliers, helping arrange for the hotel and banquets, and scheduling a comedian on Friday night. Renee came to the Denver area a few days early to make the badges, pack boxes, create last minute graphics, and stuff bags.

Assisting Michele and Renee were Jamie Kent, April Chase, Lois Fulton, Dali Magno, and Derrick Sharp. If you were at the banquet you couldn't help but notice these fine young people helping out. They were also responsible for being convention runners, making runs to the airport, decorating the rooms, and cleaning up. Derrick, now 15, spent his birthday (April 15) working on the convention. That's dedication!

*"Derrick spent
his birthday
working on the
convention.
That's
dedication!"*

Presidential candidate Don Gorman came in two days early for the convention and stayed until Monday morning. He was a featured guest on the early morning show on KNUS, thanks to the gallant efforts of Steve Gresh. Mr. Gorman received several calls, creating a great show for the host. Making good on his promise to help local organizations, Mr. Gorman helped encourage several people to become candidates. He spent lots of time with folks, which may explain all the Go Gorman stickers I saw.

After a slight glitch at the airport, Mr. Browne arrived at the convention in time to present his speech. Mr. Browne socialized with several of the convention goers for the remaining hours of the convention. On Monday, Mr. Browne was featured on two radio shows, one in Boulder and the other with KNUS during the Jim Baker show. He also met with Linda Seebach from the Rocky Mountain News and had lunch with Dudley Brown, Bob Glass, Mark Call, and Linn and Sharon Armstrong to discuss forming coalitions with Second Amendment advocates.

Presidential candidate Barry Hess was also on hand to give a speech. Arriving midmorning on Sunday, Mr. Hess made himself available throughout the day, speaking to several small groups and individuals. In fact, he was so wrapped up in talking to our young people just outside the main hall that he and they almost missed Vin Suprynowicz's talk! It looked like he had the hearts of our younger members and they kept him answering questions long after the convention. A special thanks to Mr. Hess for giving so much time to our newer members!

Our closing speaker, Vin Suprynowicz, was especially generous at this convention, donating not only one but four of his books! This is the second time he has been to Colorado in the last year and both times his speech was outstanding, rousing the interest and emotion of the audience. We would love to have him back again, perhaps in 2002.

Each year our exhibition hall continues to grow. This year, not only did we have exhibits for the candidates and the state LP, we had a chance to see the Gun Show booth set up, to see an early version of an LP educational video, and to view a tape with the coverage of the fruit picking event.

One of the many business functions that took place at the convention was the nominations of candidates. Now many races in Colorado have Libertarian candidates, though many slots remain unfilled. The convention was a great kick off and the groundwork done by the Jefferson County Libertarians and the El Paso Libertarians have helped to put many candidates on the Libertarian ticket. Now the real work begins. It's time for filling the remaining races with candidates and for planning strategy for the upcoming elections.

Our new board was elected at the convention. Please welcome new board members Michelle Konieczny as fund raising director, John Berntson as public information director, Ari Armstrong as publications director, Johanna Fallis as treasurer, Brian Rachocki as outreach director, and Norman T. Olsen as campaigns director. Please welcome back David Bryant and Tom Goonan in their new roles, information director and legislative director respectively.

Finally, I want to welcome all the newcomers to our party. We are glad to have you as a part of our future!

In Liberty, BetteRose Smith

LIBERTY

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Auraria Students Plan College Freedom Clubs

by April Anne Chase

The Libertarian Party of Colorado will have a new affiliate on the Auraria Campus beginning in the fall semester. Comprising four students – April Anne Chase, Lois Fulton, and Dali Magno of Metropolitan State College; and Jamie Kent of the University of Colorado at Denver – this organization will seek to expand Libertarian membership by educating the student population about the Freedom Philosophy.

In order to accomplish these goals, we intend to establish two overlapping student clubs, one of which will focus on drug prohibition and the other on freedom issues in general. While neither will be explicitly Libertarian Party centered, both will be inherently Libertarian with regard to philosophy and sponsorship.

The reasons that we have decided on this course of action are primarily strategy based. Most people, especially students, distrust politics, including the parties, the platforms and the individuals who represent them. Also, students tend to give support to and rally for causes, more so than for organizations. Additionally, as students ourselves, we understand the desire for direct action and influence in a particular situation, as opposed to endless rhetoric on a litany of subjects. All of these considerations have informed our decision to be action-oriented by framing the issue on which we will work and then by separating this issue from the broader philosophy of Libertarianism.

The fact that one cannot actively oppose prohibition without eventually realizing its connection to the more general concepts of individual freedom and personal responsibility, by our judgments, virtually ensures that involvement in one club will necessitate involvement in both. But we want students to have the opportunity to come to this realization, and to make this choice



Recent Metro graduate Jennifer Armstrong joins Auraria students Dali Magno, Lois Fulton, April Anne Chase, and Jamie Kent

for themselves, as this is consistent with the Libertarian concept of non-coercion. Ultimately this will encourage an active and dedicated membership.

Our club plans to host speakers, debates, films, forums, demonstrations, and protests. Our primary objective in these endeavors is to raise awareness and stimulate critical thinking, which will also promote the secondary goal of increasing support for the Libertarian Party. We also want to shake things up on our campus by challenging complacency and the status quo through organized, grassroots activity.

If there is anyone who would like to speak or offer suggestions for debates, forums, demonstrations, or protests, please contact me at aachase@uswest.net or 303.355.8057. We will also be working closely with Brian Rachocki and Ari Armstrong – please do not hesitate to contact them with any ideas.

I would like to thank James W. Lark, who spoke at the 2000 Colorado Libertarian Convention, for his strategies on successful campus club organization, which I have relied on for this article. Thanks also to Tom Goonan and Ari Armstrong for all of the introductions and advice.

"We want to shake things up on our campus by challenging complacency and the status quo."

Libertarians Reach Out to Civil Arms Advocates

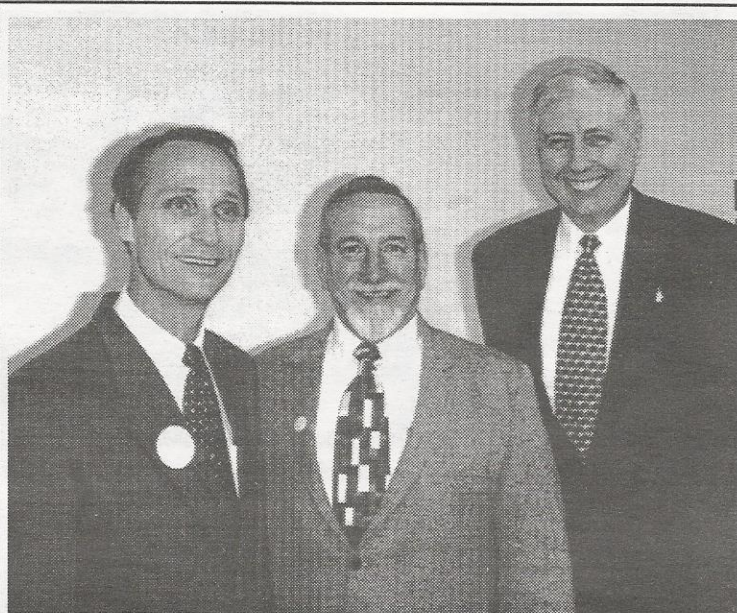
In a meeting with Harry Browne, Bob Glass commented that a major source of violence is drug prohibition. Thus, the war on drugs has led to a war on guns. Indeed, so-called "assault weapons" were bared from import ostensibly because of the drug war. While Glass is a long-time libertarian, his comments and similar notes from others may signify a shift in the civil arms community even closer to libertarian theory.

Glass was scheduled to speak at the state convention

but was struck by another vehicle while driving on his way. He didn't go to the hospital, and hopefully he won't face physical problems or insurance hassles.

On April 19, Ari Armstrong spoke at Chatfield High School about civil arms. The students were enthusiastic. Armstrong asked students to be aware of the unintended bad consequences of laws and of Orwellian language manipulation. An opponent of civil gun rights spoke to the group two days later.

LP Presidential Candidates Differ on Strategy



Libertarian Presidential hopefuls Berry Hess, Don Gorman and Harry Browne connect with Colorado delegates.

The three candidates offer different visions for the Libertarian Party.

by Ari Armstrong

Presidential candidates from the *other* two parties lack a coherent political philosophy and share the strategy of convincing voters the other guy's even worse.

Not so with the Libertarian hopefuls. Harry Browne, Don Gorman, and Berry Hess share fundamental Libertarian principles and have decided to run upbeat, mutually supportive campaigns. As Hess pointed out, the Libertarian Party simply can't afford a destructive pre-nomination season. As Gorman put it, "We're competitors, not enemies." The three have expressed the desire to play a supportive role for the candidate who finally wins the nomination.

The three candidates offer different visions for the Libertarian Party, however. Browne wants to popularize the Libertarian Party and win enough votes to gain media attention and push the party into the spotlight. Gorman intends to support local candidates who will then be able to gain valuable political experience. Hess told the crowd, "I think we're ready for victory *this* time."

Gorman attended the Colorado Convention from Friday evening (April 14) until the following Monday, making good on his promise to support local politics.

Gorman said his years as an ocean tug master gave him valuable experience relevant to politics, as he commanded a \$21 million dollar ship and held responsibility for the lives of his crew. He had to

maintain friendly relations with foreign officials and military forces.

Gorman also served in the legislature in New Hampshire as a Libertarian and has held several local offices.

"It is my intention to come back here to Colorado" to work with local candidates, Gorman said. During his speech he discussed education and other issues, but he got most emotional while making a reference to Waco: "Never again are we going to allow American tanks to kill women and children."

If Browne is successful in his bid, "everybody in America will know what a Libertarian is." For Browne, the Libertarian problem is one of marketing. Browne has honed his message for repealing the income tax, freeing people from the

bankrupt Social Security scheme, and ending the "insane war on drugs." He stresses Constitutional government and puts the faces of real politicians on spending programs.

Browne said his 2000 campaign is better positioned than his 1996 run. The LP has more members and



Harry Browne tells the audience he expects we'll achieve a free society within his lifetime.

Adams County Libertarians Protest Income Tax

On April 17, to the sound of heartfelt "thank you's and "it's about time," Ari Armstrong and Jay Carper led the tax day charge at two Adams County post offices. Thousands of Coloradans heard the words, "Vote Libertarian," and about fifteen hundred received literature introducing them to the LP's official stand on the income tax.

Armstrong, wearing a Bill Clinton mask, struck a sympathetic chord with last-minute tax filers by encouraging them to continue sending him (Bill Clinton, that is) their money so he could continue to finance big government projects like the war in Bosnia. One individual who objected that the poor would all become homeless without the income tax changed her mind when she realized that she could use that extra money to directly help the poor without money-hungry bureaucrats taking their cut. The overwhelming response was very favorable to the Libertarian Party.

Carper and Armstrong have already begun to formulate a plan for next year's protest. The tentative plans include bright colors, Nixon and Clinton masks, and two or three Libertarians at each of the county post offices. Carper estimated that they may be able to reach fifteen to twenty thousand Adams County residents in 2001.

For more information about the Adams County Libertarians, contact Jay Carper at 303.252.7808.

Please Participate in the Colorado Liberty

The deadline for material for the *Colorado Liberty* is the third Saturday of each month. If you head an affiliate, please send in updates about the activities of your group. Anyone may submit articles and letters for consideration. Send your documents (text-only e-mails preferred) and digitized photos to ariarmstrong@hotmail.com, or send print photos to state headquarters or to Ari Armstrong, Box 1034, Arvada, 80001. Please mark submissions with a "CL" in the subject.

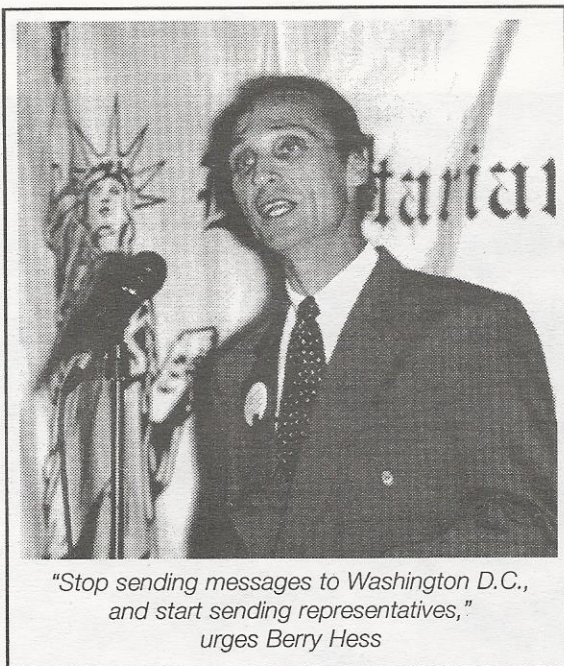
Thanks! – Ari Armstrong, Publications

We've Got Web!

Check out the NEW Colorado Libertarian web page at www.lpcolorado.org!

Now that the web page is on-line and will be updated regularly, tell your friends and publish the address with your flyers and releases!

*Thousands of
Coloradans
heard the
words, "Vote
Libertarian,"*



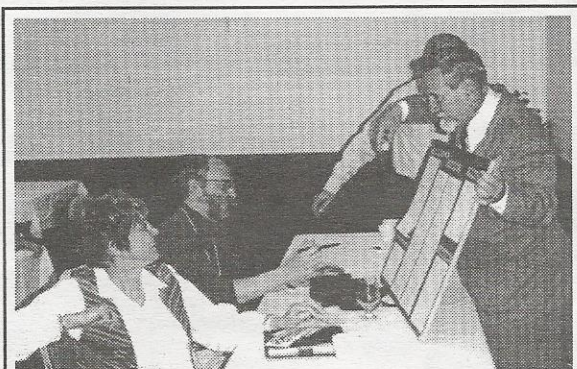
*"Stop sending messages to Washington D.C.,
and start sending representatives,"
urges Berry Hess*

Browne's campaign has attracted more money. He predicts his campaign will be able to pay for fixed expenses sooner and spend 20-30 times as much on advertising than in 1996. "I am determined that we will have liberty in our lifetime," he told the audience.

Hess said the income tax has damaged American families by forcing both parents to work. He said Libertarians need to start a "war on the war on drugs" and "get government out of the education business." He added, "Government has absolutely no business trying to socially engineer our children."

"Will we win? That I do not know. Can we win? Absolutely," Hess said. He added, "Don't let it be said, 'I didn't play to win.'"

Hess implied criticism for the gradualist plans of Browne and Gorman. "Only one who can see the invisible can do the impossible," he said, adding that great political shifts are only achieved by vision.



*Don Gorman encourages Rae Christiansen and
Rob Herzfeld to run for state or local office.*

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Convention 2000



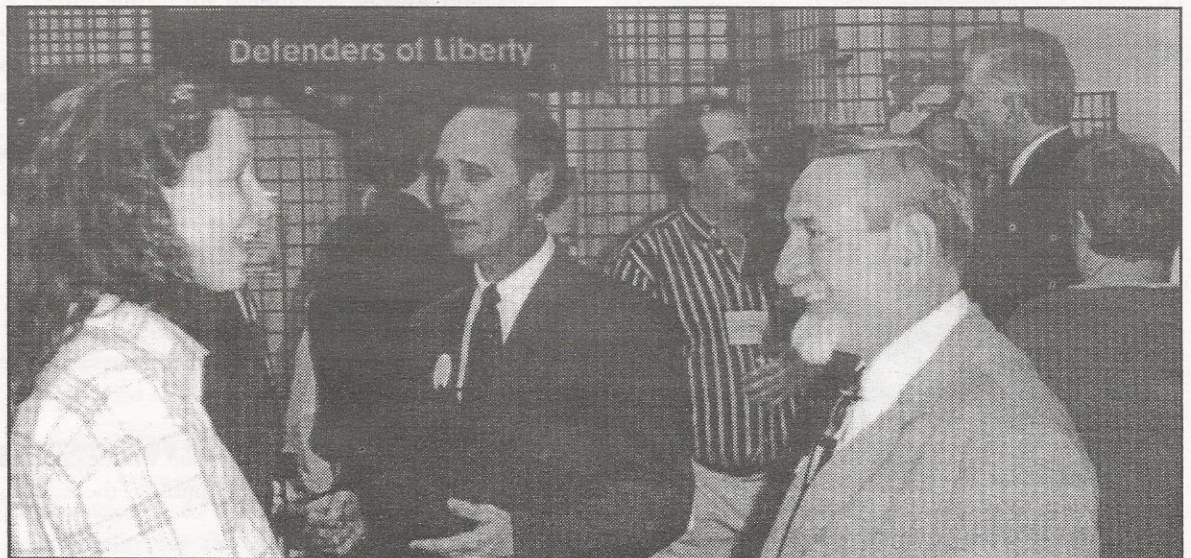
Top: Minuteman awards— Mike Dunafon, Debbie Matthews, Jay Carper, Ari Armstrong, Elizabeth Bennett, Chuck Wright, Joe Johnson, Wright Morgan, Bennett Rutledge, Doug Anderson, and Steve Gresh



Middle Left: Doug Anderson accepts The 2000 Lexington Award.

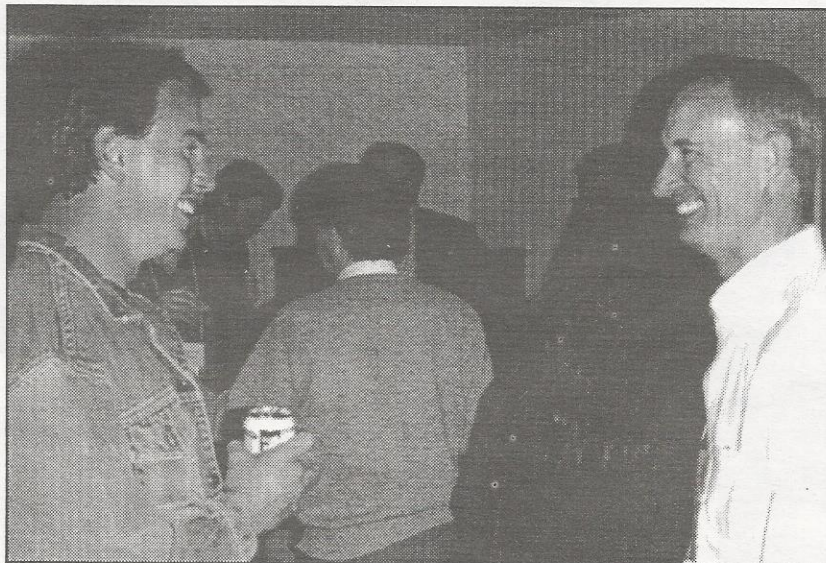
Middle Right: Barry Maggert offers tips on internet politics.

Bottom: Libertarian Presidential hopefuls Berry Hess, Don Gorman and Harry Browne connect with Colorado delegates.



Convention 2000

7



Top Left: David Boaz tells the convention, "There have always been only two political sides: liberty and power." He discussed the relevance of virtue, responsibility, and strong moral character to libertarian theory. He also encouraged libertarians to reach out to gays and lesbians. "The history our grandchildren study will be influenced by the decisions you make," he concluded.

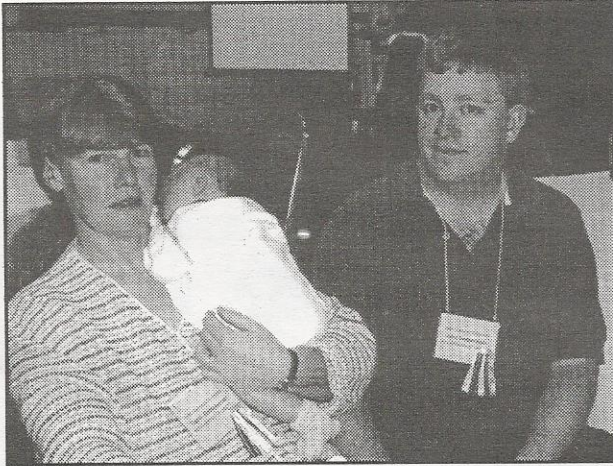
Top Right: Warren Kruse and Gary Sandritter socialize at a suite party.

Bottom Left: State Representative Penn Pliffner accepts the Friend of Freedom Award. "You love liberty, or you love government. You can't do both," he said. The award is offered annually to someone outside the Libertarian Party who advances the cause of freedom.

Bottom Right: Jack Randall (left) and Congressional candidate David Baker (right) present copies of "Send in the Waco Killers" to Vin Suprinowicz for an autograph.

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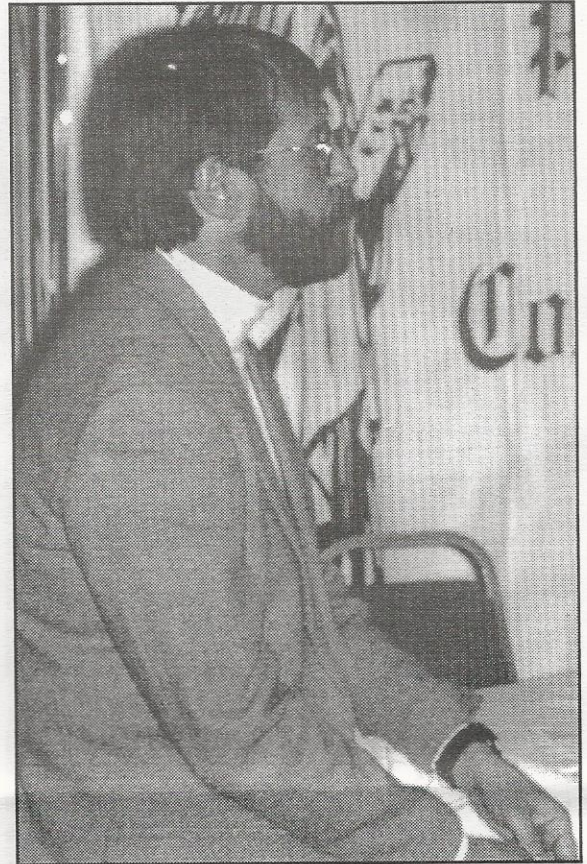
Convention 2000

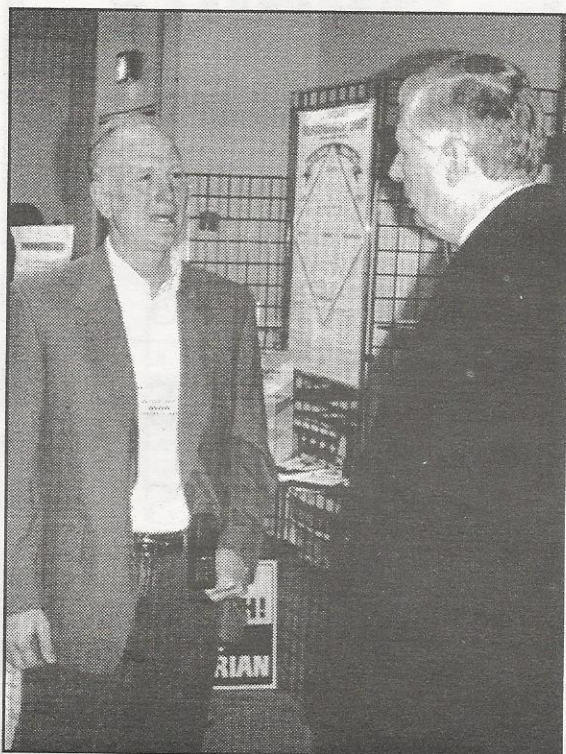


Top Left: Carol and John Geltemeyer present the youngest Libertarian Party member, five week old, Hattie.

Top Right: Richard Combs talks about recent infighting within the Libertarian Party. He concluded that certain attacks have been ad hominem and possibly unethical. During the session, Don Gorman offered the advice, "Don't drink a fellow Libertarian's blood."

Bottom: (Back) Norm Olsen, Tom Goonan, David Bryant, John Berntson, Brian Rachocki. (Front) Michelle Konieczny, Johanna Fallis, BetteRose Smith, and Ari Armstrong.



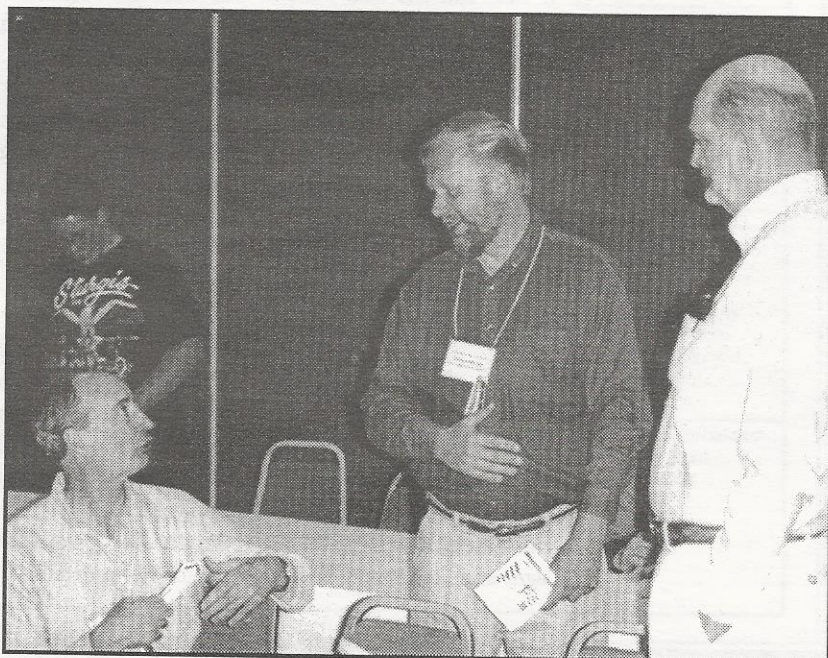


Top Left: Mac Davis chats with Harry Browne

Top Right: Joe Johnson and Elizabeth Bennett arrive for a lecture.

Bottom Left: James Lark discusses "Knee-Jerk Libertarianism." He said freedom advocates must resist demonizing their opponents and must frame their arguments in a way that gains a sympathetic ear. Lark is running for national chair.

Bottom Right: Gary Sandritter, Doug Anderson, and Tom Goonan compare notes after a lecture. Derrick Sharp checks his schedule in the background.



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Doubling the CO-LP the Easy Way!

by Joe Johnson

Everywhere that I go, I hear the same thing: "I'd vote Libertarian, if only the party were large enough to make a difference at the polls." I'm sure that you've heard that one too. Heck, before I joined the party, I used that line, too.

So we know that we need to grow the party in order to win elections, but we need to win elections in order to influence the masses to join the party. Catch 22, right? Not really. Actually it's quite simple. Simple that is, if we are a party that is willing to stop talking philosophy and begin doing what needs to be done.

I'd like to ask that every member of the party make a belated new year's resolution. —*One person*— that's all it takes! One person. If each person reading this note made the commitment to have one person join the party by November 1, 2000, we would double the party of Colorado and become a force to reckon with at the polls!

Come on now, admit it you know *one* person with whom you have been talking politics, who isn't already a registered Libertarian or a member of the state party. The coworker at the water fountain, that neighbor you watch the game with, The bartender at the club, a spouse or family member. Everyone knows *one* person. You do, don't you? If so, make the commitment to Liberty, and promise yourself (and us) to convince that one person that the struggle for liberty *is* worth the price of the membership.

If not, call me and I'll put you to work at a local gun show, and you'll meet hundreds of people with whom you may discuss joining the cause of freedom. Heck, it's better than starving, freezing, and dying at Valley Forge, but no less vital to the fight for liberty. Can you imagine the Colorado Libertarian party being twice as strong in November? I can. Just one person, it's that simple!

*"If each person
made the
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join the party by
November 1,
2000, we would
double the party
of Colorado."*

Armed Informed Mothers March

Join the Second Amendment Sisters, Rocky Mountain Gun Owners, and the Tyranny Response Team on Mothers' Day, Sunday May 14, to advocate your civil liberties to keep and bear arms. The national press will be in town to cover the event, so now is the time to put the Libertarian Party in the spotlight. Bring your LP signs and literature. Check www.rmgo.org for details.

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LIBERTY CALENDAR

April • May 2000

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

May	1 Boulder , noon. Call Ron Bain: 303.443.9179 Southside , 7pm. Call Bennett: 303.740.8690	2 Fort Collins Breakfast, 7 am at Joe's Fireside Cafe, 238 S College Ave. Call Lee Smith: 970.635.0395	3 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.532.0118 Broomfield 7pm. Call Wright Morgan: 303.465.9676	4 Jefferson County 6 pm. social, 7 pm. business. 12895 W. 16th. Dr. in Golden. Call Tom Goonan: 303.202.9069	5 Adams County , 7 pm at Sheri's, 511 E 120th Ave. Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808	6 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334
7	8 Boulder Luncheon, noon. Call Ron Bain 303.443.9179 Adams County , 7 pm Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808	9	10 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. Call John Berntson: 719.532.0118	11 Boulder LPBC Board Meeting, 6:30 pm. Murphy's Grill 28th & Iris in Boulder Call Ron Bain: 303.443.9179	12	13 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334
14	15 Boulder , noon. Call Ron Bain 303.443.9179 Fort Collins , 7pm. Call Dan Cochran 970.667.7557	16	17 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm Call John Berntson: 719.532.0118 Routt County , 7pm. Call Mike Zuckerman 970.870.8104	18	19	20 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334 Deadline for submissions for the June Liberty. call: Ari Armstrong 303.412.8356
21	22 Boulder Luncheon, noon. Call Ron Bain 303.443.9179 Adams County , 7 pm Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808	23	24 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7pm. Call John Berntson: 719.532.0118	25	26	27 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334
28	29 Boulder Luncheon, noon. Call Ron Bain 303.443.9179	30	31 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7pm. Call John Berntson: 719.532.0118			

Future Dates on the Liberty Calendar:

- June 30 through July 3: **National Convention in Anaheim, California.**
For more information call: 202.333.0008 ext. 227

J u n e

				1 Jefferson County 6 pm. social, 7 pm. business. Call Tom Goonan: 303.202.9069 Adams County , 7 pm at Sheri's, 511 E 120th Ave. Call Jay Carper: 303.252.7808	2	3 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334 Tanner Gun Show Call Joe Johnson: 303.604.9153
4 Tanner Gun Show Call Joe Johnson: 303.604.9153	5 Boulder , noon. Call Ron Bain: 303.443.9179 Southside , 7pm. Call Bennett: 303.740.8690	6 Fort Collins Breakfast, 7 am at Joe's Fireside Cafe, 238 S College Ave. Call Lee Smith: 970.635.0395	7 Colorado Springs Friends of Liberty, 7 pm. 719.532.0118 Broomfield 7pm. Call Wright Morgan: 303.465.9676	8 Boulder LPBC Board Meeting, 6:30 pm. Cheng's Chinese, 480 W Dahlia in Louisville. Call Ron Bain: 303.443.9179	9	10 Denver Breakfast LePeep's, 8 am. 303.831.4334

LIBERTY

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Use this form to begin or extend your unified (national and state) LP membership. Send it to:
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The Federal Election Commission requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer of each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. The IRS requires us to print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fund-raising appeals. Although we'd like to tell you this is a government mandated notice, the FEC and IRS also say we're not allowed to tell you that!

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Account # _____ Signature _____

(National party members please sign below)

I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature: _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

What does the above pledge mean? We ask our members to disavow the initiation of force. This does not mean that you cannot defend yourself; you do have a right to defend your life, liberty, and property. It means that you cannot use the coercive power of government to forcibly achieve your personal, ethical, or religious goals. This commitment helps us maintain our principles and provides us with a measuring stick to determine if we have strayed from our common goal: a society where all relationships among persons are based on voluntary cooperation.

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